



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : C09C 1/22, 1/24, 1/36, 1/48, 1/56, C09B 48/00, 67/14, 67/16	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/22050 (43) International Publication Date: 20 April 2000 (20.04.00)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/23626 (22) International Filing Date: 13 October 1999 (13.10.99) (30) Priority Data: 60/103,939 13 October 1998 (13.10.98) US (71) Applicant: THE VALSPAR CORPORATION [US/US]; 1101 Third Street South, Minneapolis, MN 55415 (US). (71)(72) Applicants and Inventors: BRANDENBURGER, Larry [US/US]; 1101 Third Street South, Minneapolis, MN 55415 (US). KORENKIEWICZ, Stephen [US/US]; 1630 West Hill Street, Louisville, KY 40210 (US). BINNS, Mark [US/US]; 1630 West Hill Street, Louisville, KY 40210 (US). PHILLIPS, Dana, L. [US/US]; 204 Wakeland Drive, Raymond, MS 39154 (US). DIEHL, Don [US/US]; 1630 West Hill Street, Louisville, KY 40210 (US). (74) Agent: VIKSNINS, Ann, S.; Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402 (US).		(81) Designated States: CA, MX. Published <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: UNIVERSAL PAINT TINTING CONCENTRATES <div style="text-align: center;"> $\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}=\text{CH} \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \text{CH}_3-(\text{CH}_2)_r-\text{CH} \quad \text{CH}-(\text{CH}_2)_s-\text{COOH} \\ \backslash \quad / \\ \text{CH}-\text{CH} \\ \quad \\ \text{Z}-(\text{CH}_2)_x \quad (\text{CH}_2)_y-\text{Z}' \end{array} \quad (I)$ </div> (57) Abstract <p>A universal tinting concentrate for both solvent- and water-based paints and coatings. The universal tinting concentrate is a composition which includes a colorant component, such as pigment, colorant, tinting agent and/or metal effect agent; a pigment dispersant including an organic acid containing no more than 70 carbon atoms; and a pH-neutralizing agent. In one embodiment of the invention, the pigment dispersant is represented by structure (I), where r and s are integers and r + s is 6 to 16; and x and y are integers and x + y is 0 to 19; and Z is H or COOH and Z' is H or COOH.</p>		

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece			TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	ML	Mali	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MN	Mongolia	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MR	Mauritania	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MW	Malawi	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	MX	Mexico	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NE	Niger	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NL	Netherlands	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NO	Norway	ZW	Zimbabwe
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	NZ	New Zealand		
CM	Cameroon			PL	Poland		
CN	China	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CU	Cuba	KZ	Kazakstan	RO	Romania		
CZ	Czech Republic	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
DE	Germany	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DK	Denmark	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
EE	Estonia	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		

UNIVERSAL PAINT TINTING CONCENTRATES

5

Background of the Invention

Paints and coatings are used to protect a surface from corrosion, oxidation or other types of deterioration and to provide decorative effects.

Organic solvent-based paint or coating is a uniformly dispersed mixture ranging in viscosity from a thin liquid to a semi-solid paste and includes a film-forming
10 polymeric binder, an organic solvent, pigment and other additives. The binder and the solvent collectively make what is known as the "vehicle."

Latex or emulsion paint is a water-based paint or coating of a dispersion of dry powders of pigment and dispersed colorant, plus various paint additives such as fillers and extenders, and a resin dispersion. Typically the dry
15 powder dispersion is made by milling the dry ingredients into water. The resin dispersion is either a latex formed by emulsion polymerization or a resin in emulsion form. The two dispersions are blended to form an emulsion, or latex, paint. Thus, the binder for latex paints and coatings is in an aqueous-dispersed form, whereas in a solvent paint or coating, it is in a soluble form. Latex paints
20 and coatings are popular consumer paints, as they are easy to apply, are easy to clean up, are nonflammable, generally lack a disagreeable odor and can be used on both interior and exterior surfaces.

Pigments impart color to both solvent and latex paints and coatings. They also contribute to the opacity, durability and hardness of paint
25 coatings. They are added to paint in the form of dry pigment powders and pigmented tinting concentrate during paint manufacture at the paint plant. In addition, especially for consumer latex paints, they may be added in the form of pigmented paint tinting concentrates at the point of sale, such as at retail paint stores. Essentially, the consumer may choose a custom-made color of the paint
30 by having the retailer add a tinting concentrate to a white or tintable base.

Pigments are ordinarily organic or inorganic dry powders which incorporate a mixture of primary particles, aggregates and agglomerates. Aggregates are primary pigment particles joined face-to-face, and agglomerates are primary pigment particles joined at an edge or a corner. For both industrial and consumer paints, whether solvent or latex, pigment must be dispersed homogeneously throughout the paint when added. To properly be dispersed, pigments must be wetted, deaggregated and deagglomerated in the paint vehicle. Dry pigments are insoluble in organic solvents and water, therefore necessitating wetting, deaggregation and deagglomeration before dispersion forces can take full effect and enable the production of a stable, colloidal pigmentary dispersion in the paint vehicle. The wetting or deaeration process is physical in nature, as it requires that the vehicle or solvent displace the air on the surface of the pigment particles. The ideal dispersion consists of a homogenous suspension of primary particles, after reducing any aggregates and agglomerates to primary particles.

The wetting process is accomplished through the use of wetting agents, which are a type of surface-active agent or "surfactant." As discussed, wetting involves incorporation of the pigment into the vehicle replacing pigment-air interfaces with pigment-vehicle interfaces. Surfactants tend to bring pigment into solution as a result of surface activity at the pigment-solution interface. In general, surfactant molecules are composed of two segregated portions, one of which has sufficient affinity for the solvent (organic or aqueous) to bring the entire molecule into solution. The other portion is rejected by the solvent, because it has less affinity for the solvent than the solvent molecules have for each other. If the forces rejecting this group are sufficiently strong, the solute molecule will tend to concentrate at an interface, so that at least part of the area of the rejected group is not in contact with the solvent molecules. While some organic solvents may be good pigment wetting agents themselves, surfactants are typically added to solvent paints to ensure thorough pigment dispersion throughout the paint vehicle. Water-based systems are poor wetting

agents of dry pigments, and thus, latex paints necessarily require the addition of surfactants for pigment dispersion.

Surfactants also stabilize the pigment dispersion from reaggregating and reagglomerating. In strongly-polar organic solvents or water, electrostatic stabilization is imparted by charged species adsorbing onto the pigment surfaces. This causes a cloud of oppositely-charged counter-ions to form around the particle, thus making an electric double layer that will repel similarly-charged surfaces. In nonpolar systems, a steric-stability is imparted by the adsorbed dispersant that prevents close approach of the surfaces.

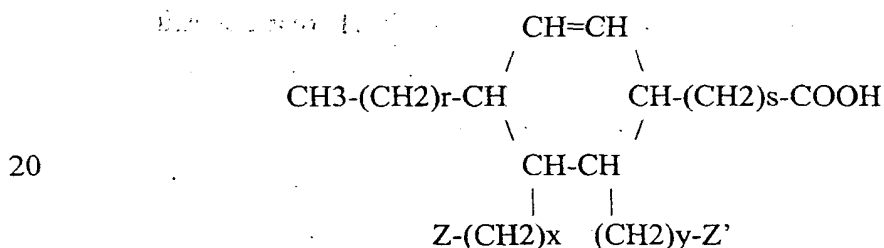
Surfactants conventionally used with tinting concentrates are primarily nonionic and amphoteric surfactants in conjunction with anionic surfactant. There are disadvantages with the known surfactants. Most notably, the surfactants known for use as pigment dispersants for both solvent, and latex paints or tinting concentrates therefor, can harm the rheological profiles of paints, tending to impart to a greater or lesser degree undesirable properties to the ultimately dried paint film. Surfactants can retard the curing or drying process of the paint and can increase the water sensitivity and reduce the scrub resistance of the dried film. Additionally, they can interfere with and hinder paint and pigment tinting concentrate thickeners and undesirably alter paint viscosity. Further, the primary nonionic surfactants used in conventional pigment dispersant formulations are alkyl phenol ethoxylates, which may be hazardous to human health.

Summary Of The Invention

The present invention provides a universal tinting concentrate that may be used with organic solvent-based and latex or emulsion aqueous-based paints and coatings. The tinting concentrate of the present invention provides particularly advantageous compatibility with both types of systems, and exhibits a highly desirable rheological profile. The inventive tinting concentrate provides improvements over the prior art, generally providing tinting concentrates which

produce dried paint and coating films with faster curing, increased scrub resistance, better flash rust and corrosion resistance, and/or better rheological profiles than paints produced with known tinting concentrates. It is also an object of the present invention to provide a tinting concentrate that may be used to make paints with extremely low levels of volatile organic compounds ("VOC").

These and other objects may be achieved by the present invention which is directed to a universal tinting concentrate for both solvent- and water-based paints and coatings. More particularly, the universal tinting concentrate is a composition which includes a colorant component, such as pigment, colorant, tinting agent and/or metal effect agent; a pigment dispersant including an organic acid containing no more than about 70 carbon atoms; and a pH-neutralizing agent. Preferably, the pigment dispersant includes an organic acid or salt thereof, has a total of about 15 to about 50 carbon atoms. More preferably, the pigment dispersant is represented by the following structure:



where r and s are integers and r + s is 6 to 16; and x and y are integers and x + y is 0 to 19; and Z is H or COOH and Z' is H or COOH.

Optional additional components for the universal tinting concentrate include a diluent; a dihydric or polyhydric alcohol; a polyether; a biocide; one or more conventional anionic and/or cationic surfactants; a defoaming agent; carboxyl-containing polymers, such as polyacrylates and/or carboxyl-containing polyurethanes, which can function as conventional dispersing agents; and additional pigment, colorant, tinting agent or metal effect agent. When added to paint, the universal tinting concentrate has a pigment-to-vehicle binder ratio of from about 0.35 to 25.

These and other advantages of the present invention will become more apparent by referring to the detailed description and illustrative examples of the invention.

5

Detailed Description of the Invention

This invention relates to a universal tinting concentrate for paints and coatings. More particularly, this invention relates to a universal tinting concentrate for solvent-based and aqueous paints and coatings. The universal tinting concentrate accomplishes pigment dispersion in these dissimilar coating
10 formulations through the agency of an organic mono- or polyacid, preferably having ionotropic character.

The advantages of the invention include an ability to use a single set of pigment concentrates for tinting organic- and aqueous-based paints and coatings. Additional advantages include improved dry response of paints and
15 coatings formulated with the inventive tinting concentrate when compared to paint and coating formulations with prior art dispersants. There are significant (20 to 40%) increases in scrub resistance for paints and coatings formulated with the inventive universal tinting concentrate compared with paints and coatings formulated with prior art pigment dispersants or tinting concentrates. Paints and
20 coatings formulated with the inventive universal tinting concentrate show increased flash rust resistance when used in water-based paints directly over metal. Some paint and coating formulations using the inventive universal tinting concentrate show significantly reduced depression in viscosity when compared to the prior art. A further advantage is the virtual elimination of a VOC-
25 contribution by the colorant to various coatings.

Both solvent-based and water-based paints and coatings include a binder. A "coating" is a film or a thin layer applied to a substrate, which may be clear or may contain pigment, colorant, tinting agent or metal effect. Paint is a type of coating, and hereinafter, unless otherwise noted, any reference to "paint"
30 means both paint and coating.

Organic solvent-based paint ("solvent paint") is a uniformly-dispersed mixture ranging in viscosity from a thin liquid to a semi-solid paste and includes a polymeric binder; an organic solvent; pigment, colorant, tinting agent and/or metal effect agent; and other additives. The polymeric binder can be a drying oil, natural, semi-synthetic or synthetic resin such as polyacrylate, polyurethane, modified alkyd resin or other film-forming polymer. Included as well in the binder usually is a cross-linking agent, hardener, curing agent and/or secondary resin having cross-linking ability. The polymeric binder and the solvent collectively make what is known as the "vehicle."

"Pigment," usually in the form of organic or inorganic dry powder, is a substance that imparts color to another substance or mixture. "Colorant" is also a substance that imparts color to another substance or mixture, and generally includes pigment and other additives. "Tinting agent" similarly is a color-imparting agent. "Metal effect agent" is an agent that imparts metallic-type luster and associated properties to paint films. Hereinafter, unless otherwise noted, pigment, colorant, tinting agent and metal effect will be referred to collectively as "colorant component."

Latex or emulsion paint ("latex paint") is a water-based paint consisting of a dispersion of dry powders of pigment, plus various paint additives, such as fillers and extenders, and a resin dispersion. The dry powder dispersion is made by milling the dry ingredients into water. The resin dispersion is either a latex formed by emulsion polymerization or a resin in emulsion form, constituting the binder. The two dispersions are blended to form latex paint. Thus, the binder for latex paints is in an aqueous-dispersed form, whereas in a solvent paint, it is in a soluble form.

The universal tinting concentrate of the present invention provides a single set of tinting concentrate formulations for use with either solvent or latex paints. The universal tinting concentrate includes an organic acid, or salt thereof, containing no more than 60 carbon atoms. The acid, or salt thereof, is typically a liquid, but may be a solid, at ambient temperature. The

tinting concentrate also includes a colorant component and a pH-neutralizing agent. Optional additional components for the tinting concentrate include additional colorant component, diluent, a base, a polyether, a biocide, one or more conventional anionic and/or cationic surfactants, a defoaming agent and
5 carboxyl-containing polymers, such as polyacrylates, and/or carboxyl-containing polyurethanes, which can function as conventional dispersing agents.

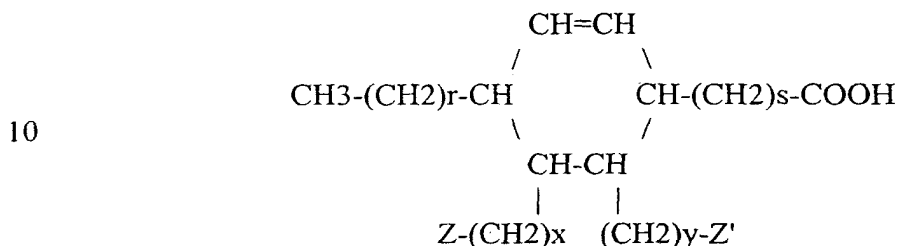
The organic acid, or salt thereof, used in the universal tinting concentrate functions as a pigment dispersant and typically has an ability to disperse the colorant component in organic-based and aqueous-based vehicles.
10 Although it is not completely miscible with all organic and aqueous solvents, it has at least some solubility in most organic- and aqueous-based solvents. The chemistry of the acid or salt is based upon an aliphatic organic molecule that contains at least one carboxylic acid, sulfonic or phosphoric acid groups and aliphatic carbons. Saturated and unsaturated carbons may be present in the
15 organic acid.

The organic acid, which generally contains no more than 70 carbon atoms, functions as a pigment dispersant. Typically, the pigment dispersant of the present invention is a polyacid or salt thereof containing a total of 6 to 50 carbon atoms. More typically, it is a polyacid or salt thereof
20 containing 15 to 30 carbon atoms, two to four carboxyl groups and a chain of 14 to 22 aliphatic carbons, which chain may have one or more sites of unsaturation. As the alkylene chain is a hydrocarbon chain which may include portions of a cycloaliphatic ring.

The acid may be a monoacid or a polyacid, or it may be a salt
25 thereof. The mono- or polyacid or salt thereof contains no more than 60 carbon atoms and has a ratio of acid groups to aliphatic carbons of at least about 1 to 5 and preferably a ratio of from about 1:6 to about 1:25. Aromatic groups and cycloaliphatic groups may be present. Preferably, the aromatic and cycloaliphatic groups are present within the aliphatic carbon chain, such that
30 these groups confer restricted rotation upon the acid or salt molecule. The acid

typically constitutes between about 3 and 13 % by weight of the total tinting concentrate. The pigment-to-binder ratio should be between about 0.35 and 25 when the tinting concentrate is mixed with a paint to provide color.

In a first preferred embodiment, the inventive dispersant is a
 5 dicarboxylic acid containing a total of 15 to 44 carbon atoms having the following chemical structure:



15 where r and s are integers and r + s is 6 to 16; and x and y are integers and x + y is 0 to 19; and Z is H or COOH and Z' is H or COOH. For ease of reference, where Z is H and Z' is COOH, this formula will be referred to as "Formula I." Alternatively, the dispersant is the salt of this dicarboxylic acid. A particularly suitable example of the above-referenced embodiments is a dicarboxylic acid in
 20 which r is 5, s is 7, x is 0 and y is 0. A particularly useful commercial example this embodiment is Westvaco Chemical's Diacid 1550, which is a blend of the above-referenced structure with 8 to 12% fatty acid. Another useful commercial example is Westvaco's Diacid 1550 XLM, which is the same structure without the fatty acid.

25 In a second preferred embodiment, the inventive dispersant is the dispersant of Formula I, but where Z is COOH and Z' is H. This formula will be referred to as "Formula II." Alternatively, the dispersant is the salt of this dicarboxylic acid. A particularly suitable example of this embodiment is a dicarboxylic acid in which r is 5, s is 7, x' is 0 and y' is 0.

30 It should be appreciated that the inventive dispersant may include a mixture of acids represented by both Formula I and Formula II.

Although dicarboxylic acids or their salts have not been known as effective pigment dispersants for paints, the process of making liquid

dicarboxylic acids and their salts is known, as they have been used in a number of industrial and commercial applications, including those requiring the use of surfactants, disinfectants or detergents. A method of making C21 dicarboxylic acids, for example, is disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,156,095 to Jevne, which method is incorporated herein by reference. As discussed therein, C21 dicarboxylic acids may be made by reacting polyunsaturated monocarboxylic fatty acid containing 16 to 20 carbon atoms with an unsaturated component, such as acrylic acid, in the presence of crystalline clay at a temperature between about 180 and 260 degrees Celsius. Also as discussed in U.S. Patent No. 4,156,095, such dicarboxylic acids may also be made by reacting the polyunsaturated acid portion in a fatty acid mixture, such as linoleic acid derived from a tall oil fatty acid source, with an acrylic acid in the presence of an iodine catalyst at a temperature between 200 and 270 degrees Celsius. The resulting fatty acid dicarboxylic acid mixture may then be separated by distillation into oleic-type fatty acid and dicarboxylic acid fractions.

A further embodiment of the pigment dispersant of the inventive tinting concentrate is a polyacid that may include dimers and/or trimers of unsaturated mono- or dicarboxylic acids. Suitable exemplary acids which may be dimerized or trimerized include mid-sized olefinic acids (e.g., C6 to C20 unsaturated carboxylic acids, or arylaliphatic carboxylic acids, such as C9 to C20 aliphatic carboxylic which include a benzene ring or other aryl group. Examples of such arylaliphatic acids include aliphatic monoesters of acid trimellitic acids formed from substitutions of unsaturated carboxylic acid moieties on benzene or another aryl group.

An additional suitable pigment dispersant of this invention includes a Diels Alder adduct of unsaturated monocarboxylic acid and a hydrocarbon diene. An exemplary dispersant is a Diels Alder adduct of a C14 to C22 unsaturated fatty acid and a C4 to C6 dimer. Additional suitable acids include cyclopentadiene carboxylic acid dimer, linoleic acid dimer, the

cycloaddition product of a C8 to C20 dienoic carboxylic acid and a C6 to C18 mono-enoic carboxylic acid.

Another embodiment of the inventive dispersant includes a tall oil fatty acid. Examples of such fatty acids include linoleic fatty acids and oleic fatty acids, or combinations thereof with or without other fatty acid. A suitable example is R-COOH, where R is a combination of about 38% non-conjugated linoleic fatty acid, 7% conjugated linoleic fatty acid, about 50% oleic fatty acid, about 2% saturated fatty acid and about 2% other component. A commercial example of this tall oil fatty acid is Acitnol FA-3.

A further embodiment of the inventive dispersant includes a polyhydroxy aliphatic monocarboxylic acid. An exemplary acid includes dimethylolpropionic acid. Further embodiments include an adduct of fatty acid and dimethylolpropionic acid; an adduct of dimer acid, Cardura E (the glycidyl ester of a linear or branched-chain alkynoic acid) and dimethylolpropionic acid; the adduct of Diacid 1550 and aminomethylolpropane; the adduct of Diacid 1550 and Cardura E; and adducts of any of the foregoing polyacids and Cardura E.

Useful examples of preferable salts of the polyacid include sodium salts, potassium salts, alkali salts generally, ammonium salts, amine salts and alkanolamine salts. A useful commercial example of such a salt in Westvaco's Diacid H-240, which is a 40% active potassium salt of Diacid 1550.

The tinting concentrate of the present invention is generally compatible with and may be used for both solvent and latex paints. It is useful with both solvent and latex paints because the monovalent aliphatic hydrocarbon portion of the acid gives the pigment dispersant lipophilic properties, while the pendant and terminal carboxyl group or groups, when neutralized, give it hydrophilic properties, allowing it to disperse pigment in both organic solvent and water, respectively. In addition, the unneutralized molecule can be used as a pigment dispersant in solvent-based colorant dispersions for use in solvent paint.

Pigments for use with the pigment dispersant of the present invention are known in the art. Suitable pigments include titanium dioxide

white, carbon black, lampblack, black iron oxide, red iron oxide, yellow iron oxide, brown iron oxide (a blend of red and yellow oxide with black), phthalocyanine green, phthalocyanine blue, organic reds (such as naphthol red, quinacridone red and toulidine red), quinacridone magenta, quinacridone violet, DNA orange, and/or organic yellows (such as Hansa yellow).

The pH neutralizing agent of the inventive universal tinting concentrate is used to maintaining pH of the tinting concentrate in the appropriate range, which is generally between about 6 and 10. The pH neutralizing agent is typically a base. When used with aqueous-based paints and many organic-solvent based paints, the base can act as a neutralizing agent for the acid, such that some or all of the acid is converted to salt form, and contributes to pH balance for the pigment. Typically, the base is added during the tinting operation for the paint. In particular, the base may be any organic or inorganic compound that will neutralize the acid and will be compatible with the binder resins, cross-linkers and other components present in the final paint composition. Bases such as alkali and alkali earth metal hydroxides, organic amines such as triethyl amine, pyridine and alkanolamine, can be used. Alkali and amines are particularly useful in the present invention by neutralizing the organic acid and generally buffering the system. Exemplary bases include ammonium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide and sodium carbonate, which may be used in essentially VOC-free systems. In VOC-containing systems, preferable pH neutralizing agents include VOC-containing amine and alkanolamines, such as triethyl amine, dimethylethanol amine and aminomethylpropanol. Ammonium hydroxide is particularly suitable for neutralizing the organic acid of the inventive tinting concentrate.

The polyether component is optional, such that a mixture of polyacid, pigment and neutralizing agent are sufficient for the universal dispersant of the invention. The polyether, however, is an especially preferred component for dilution and polar-control of the dispersant formulation. The classes of compounds encompassed by the polyether include polyalkyl glycols,

such as low to moderate molecular weight polyethylene and polypropylene glycols; polyhydroxy ethers, such as those formed from epoxide polymerization; polysaccharide compounds, such as polysorbitan and polysorbitol; polyalkylene oxides, such as polyethylene and polypropylene oxide.

5 Rather than using a polyether, a dihydric or polyhydric alcohol may be employed. Ethylene glycol is an exemplary dihydric alcohol. Propylene glycol is an exemplary polyhydric alcohol.

 The universal pigment dispersant can be combined with organic solvent-based or aqueous-based vehicle formulations to provide colored paint
10 formulations, examples of which are described in Examples 9 through 14 of preferred embodiments, below. A preferable polyether for the present invention is a linear ethylene glycol polyether of low molecular weight. More preferably, the ethylene glycol polyether has a molecular weight of between about 250 and 800. Most preferably, the polyethylene glycol polyether has a molecular weight
15 ranging from 275 to 325. Medium molecular weight polyethylene glycols are advantageous for use as vehicle because they are substantially free of very low molecular weight volatile organic solvents, which are suspected toxins and/or teratogens. A particularly useful commercial polyethylene glycol is Union Carbide's PEG 300, having a molecular weight of about 285 to 315. Another
20 useful commercial additive is Humectant GRB-2 from Zenica, which contains glycerine and nonionic surfactant.

 One or more co-surfactants known in the art, including conventional anionic and/or cationic co-surfactants, may also be used, typically constituting between about zero and 10% by weight of the tinting concentrate. A
25 particularly useful co-surfactant for the tinting concentrates of the present invention is lecithin, including water-dispersible lecithin, as lecithin has negligible effect on rheology and rheological modifiers. Depending on the particular tinting concentrate being made and the particular pigments needed to be dispersed, other co-surfactants may be used known for being appropriate
30 surfactants for such pigments. Such additional exemplary co-surfactants include

phosphate esters or polyacrylate salts, commercial examples of which include Rhodafac LO-529 from Rhone Poulenc or Nopcosperse 44 from Henkel, respectively. Great care must be used in selecting co-surfactants, as they can have a significant detrimental effect in properties.

5 A thickener or multiple thickeners may be also used to increase the overall viscosity of the dispersion. The thickener or thickeners should account for more thickeners between about zero and 5% by weight of the tinting concentrate. Exemplary thickeners include cellulose ethers; carboxymethyl cellulose; alginates; caseinates; hydrophobically-modified cellulose ethers; 10 polyethylene oxide; polyvinyl alcohol; polyacrylamide; alkali-soluble acrylics and styrene/maleic anhydrides; alkali-swelling crosslinked acrylic emulsions, such as hydrophobically-modified alkali-swelling emulsions; and nonionic associative thickeners, such as hydrophobically-modified polyurethanes and polyethers. Thickeners for solvent-based dispersants include bentonite clays, 15 organoclays, synthetic silicas, castor oil derivatives, modified acrylic copolymers, polyethylene glycol, polymerized oil derivatives, organic esters, and complex polyolefins.

 A preferred thickener for use in latex paints pursuant to the present invention include synthetic hectorite. Particularly useful examples of 20 commercial synthetic hectorite include United Catalysts' Optigel SH and Southern Clay Products's Laponite RD. A preferred thickener for use in solvent paints is a cross-linked polyacrylic acid, a particularly useful commercial example of which is BF Goodrich's Carbopol EZ-1.

 In water-based dispersions, a defoaming agent may be added for 25 ease of manufacture.

 A biocide may also be added to the dispersant of the present invention to eliminate or inhibit the growth of microorganisms in the paint. Biocide will generally account for between 0 and 1% by weight of the tinting concentrate. Biocidal chemicals include chlorinated hydrocarbons, 30 organometallics, halogen-releasing compounds, metallic salts, organic sulfur

compounds, quaternary ammonium compounds and phenolics. A useful commercial example of biocide is Troysan 192.

Water may also be added to the tinting concentrates of the present invention, in an amount needed to make up the free volume. Generally, water
5 may make up between about 0 and 75 % by weight of the tinting concentrate volume, depending on the particular tinting concentrate.

The merits of the tinting concentrates of the present invention are further illustrated in the following examples.

10 Example

In the Examples 1 through 8 below, tinting concentrates were made according to the present invention. Specifically, pigments were dispersed into vehicle containing water, defoaming agent, biocide, ammonium hydroxide, PEG 300, Westvaco Chemical's Diacid 1550 or Diacid 1550 XLM, thickener
15 and co-surfactant.

EXAMPLE 1 **Black**

	Amount (g)	Percent by weight
PEG 300	51.3	5.13
Carbon Black PB-7	120.3	12
Diacid 1550	95.2	9.52
Defoamer	3.3	0.33
Thickener	9.3	0.93
Ammonium hydroxide	40.6	4.06
Lecithin	79.2	7.92
Water	599.9	59.99
Biocide	1	0.10
Total	1000	100.00

pH: 8.5
Pigment/Binder Ratio: .69
25 Pigment % by Weight: 12.03

EXAMPLE 2**Magenta**

	Amount (g)	Percent by weight
PEG 300	100	5.00
Quinacridone Magenta PR-122	168	8.40
Diacid 1550	250	12.51
Defoamer	4.6	0.23
Thickener	20	1.00
Ammonium hydroxide	95	4.75
Lecithin	60	3.33
Water	729.2	3.00
Biocide	2.0	65.00
Total	1999	100.00

5

pH: 8.5
Pigment/Binder Ratio: 0.54
Pigment % by Weight: 9.33

10

EXAMPLE 3**Brown Oxide**

	Amount (g)	Percent by weight
PEG 300	100	5
Carbon Black PB-7	63	3.15
Yellow Iron Oxide PY-42	130	6.5
Red Iron Oxide PR-101	480	24
Diacid 1550 XLM	245	12.25
Defoamer	4	0.2
Thickener	6	0.3
Ammonium hydroxide	49	2.45
Lecithin	150	7.5
Water	651	32.55
Biocide	2	0.1
Polyacrylate dispersant	120	6.0
Total	2000	100

15

pH: 7.2
Pigment/Binder Ratio: 2.75
Pigment % by Weight: 33.65

EXAMPLE 4

Red Oxide

	Amount (g)	Percent by weight
PEG 300	50	5
Red Iron Oxide PR-101	570	57
Diacid 1550	60	6
Defoamer	4	0.4
Suspending aid	1	0.1
Ammonium hydroxide	20	2
Lecithin	60	6
Water	194	19.4
Biocide	1	0.1
Polyacrylate dispersant	40	4
Total	1000	100

5

pH:	9
Pigment/Binder Ratio:	4.25
Pigment % by Weight:	57

10

EXAMPLE 5

Phthalo Blue

	Amount (g)	Percent by weight
PEG 300	50.1	49.6
Phthalo Blue PB-15:2	93	9.2
Diacid 1550	120.1	11.88
Defoamer	2	0.20
Thickener	9.13	0.90
Ammonium hydroxide	55	5.44
Phosphate Ester Surfactant	40	3.98
Water	680.1	67.31
Biocide	1	0.1
Total	1005.23	100.00

15

pH:	8.5
Pigment/Binder Ratio:	0.58
Pigment % by Weight:	9.20

EXAMPLE 6 Phthalo Green

	Amount (g)	Percent by weight
PEG 300	458.7	7.00
Phthalo green pigment PG-7	1264.3	19.28
Diacid 1550	429.8	6.55
Defoamer	14.4	0.22
Thickener	71.8	1.10
Ammonium hydroxide	205.6	3.14
Lecithin	247.1	3.77
Water	3853.5	58.77
Biocide	11.76	0.18
Total	6556.96	100.01

5

pH:	7.8
Pigment/Binder Ratio:	1.87
Pigment % by Weight:	19.28

10

EXAMPLE 7 Yellow Oxide

	Amount (g)	Percent by weight
PEG 300	50	5
Yellow Iron Oxide PY-101	600	60
Diacid 1550	60	6
Defoamer	2	0.2
Suspending aid	5	0.5
Ammonium hydroxide	10	1
Lecithin	20	2
Water	202	20.2
Biocide	1	0.1
Total	1000	100

15

pH:	7.51
Pigment/Binder Ratio:	6.15
Pigment % by Weight:	60

EXAMPLE 8**White**

	Amount (g)	Percent by weight
PEG 300	100	5
Titanium Dioxide PW-6	1200	60
Diacid 1550 XLM	60	3
Defoamer	4	0.2
Thickener	3	0.15
Ammonium hydroxide	16	0.8
Lecithin	20	1
Water	595	29.75
Biocide	2	0.1
Total	2000	100

5

pH: 7.5
Pigment/Binder Ratio: 15.0
Pigment % by Weight: 60

10

* * *

In Examples 9 through 14, some of the above tinting concentrates were added to various trade sales latex and alkyd bases to test compatibility and performance. The tinting concentrates were added volumetrically, depending on the base used. In particular, 2 ounces tint/gal. were added to pastel base, 4 ounces tint/gal. were added to medium base, 8 ounces tint/gal. were added to deep base and 12 ounces tint/gal. were added to clear base.

15

EXAMPLE 9

Red oxide tinting concentrate from Example 4 was added to 8 ounces/gal. to Valspar Interior latex semi gloss wall and trim enamel 2408. As a comparison, an equal volume of Color Corporation's Red Universal Tint 1935, a conventional universal tinting concentrate, was added to another sample of the same paint. Scrub resistance was tested and measured by ASTM Test Method D 2486, where the number of back and forth strokes (cycles) required to remove the paint film was recorded, the results of which are as follows:

	Strength	Total light difference (DE)	Rubup	Scrubs
Example 4 red	98.14%	0.84	None	803 cycles
Color Corp. Red 1935	100%	N/A	None	655 cycles

EXAMPLE 10

Eight ounces/gal. of each of red oxide tinting concentrate from Example 4 and the same conventional tinting concentrate of Example 9 were added to Valspar Interior latex flat wall paint 1408 to give the following results:

	Scrubs
Example 4 red	529 cycles
Color Corp. Red 1935	448 cycles

EXAMPLE 11

Eight ounces/gal. of each of red oxide tinting concentrate from Example 4 and the same conventional tinting concentrate of Example 9 were added to Valspar exterior latex flat house paint to give the following results:

	Strength	lightness difference (DL)	chroma difference (DC)	Total difference (DE)
Example 4 red	101.4%	-0.30	0.30	0.33
Color Corp. Red 1935	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Thus, the tint strength of the tinting concentrate of Example 4 was 101.4% compared to the conventional tinting concentrate, and the differences in lightness, chroma and total difference compared to the conventional tinting concentrate were -0.30 DL, 0.30 DC and 0.33 DE, respectively.

EXAMPLE 12

The viscosity stability of the tinting concentrate of Example 4 was tested in a Stormer Viscometer at ambient temperature and at 120 degree F for one month. Initial viscosity was 132 KU. After one month at ambient temperature, the viscosity was 130 KU. After one month at 120 degrees F, the viscosity was 132 KU.

Because of the extreme shear thinning of the rheology modifiers used in the example tinting concentrates, the viscosity data appear relatively high when measured under low shear conditions, such as with a Stormer Viscometer, however, a slight amount of force quickly reduces the viscosity to lower values for easy pumping and dispensing.

EXAMPLE 13

Eight ounces/gal of the tinting concentrate of Example 6 was compared to the same amount of Color Corporation's Universal Green Tint 1921, a conventional tinting concentrate, in Valspar 2408 Interior latex semi/gloss wall paint and Valspar 1408 flat latex interior wall paint with the following results:

	Scrubs in 2408 base	Scrubs in 1408 base
Example 6 green	898 cycles	527 cycles
Color Corp. Green 1921	678 cycles	360 cycles

EXAMPLE 14

The viscosity phthalo green tinting concentrate of Example 6 and the conventional tinting concentrate of the previous Example, in conjunction with two Valspar bases, were compared. Valspar 26090 is an interior semigloss latex. Valspar 40243 is an interior high gloss latex enamel. The results are as follows:

	26090	40234
Untinted viscosity	107 KU	106 KU
Example 6 green	88 KU	88 KU

Color Corp. Green 1921

84 KU

84 KU

The tinting concentrate of Example 6 as well as the corresponding
 5 conventional tinting concentrate were tested in the following paints:

202L Dunn Edwards flat latex house paint pastel base

45502 Valspar flat latex house paint tint base

2202 Valspar alkyd semi gloss enamel

2408 Valspar semi gloss interior enamel

10 97-33 Coronado oil solid color stain

142-1A/B Coronado Industrial water based Epoxy

8481 L&H AlkydLite High gloss water reducible alkyd deep base

180-38 Coronado Industrial DTM Acrylic Gloss deep base

M43-3A/B Benjamin Moore water base acrylic epoxy base 3

15 49-00N Mautz water based high gloss DTM latex clear base

139-1 Coronado Quick dry alkyd enamel tintable white

3811-6 Valspar Heavy Duty gloss alkyd enamel

The compatibility results are as follows:

20

	202L	45502	2202	2408	97-33
Example 6 green rubup (RU)	0	0	0	0	0
Color Corp. Green 1921 RU	0	0	0	0	0
Example 6 green shake out (SO)	103.62	100.56	100.41	99.74	101.63
Color Corp. Green 1921 SO	99.57	99.95	99.89	99.77	99.35

	142-1A	8481	180-38	M43-3A	49-00
Example 6 green rubup (RU)	1	1 white floc	1	1 white floc	0
Color Corp. Green 1921 RU	1	1 white floc	1 white floc	1 white floc	0
Example 6 green shake out (SO)	97.21	100.19	98.9	99.62	100.39
Color Corp. Green 1921 SO	102.99	97.83	99.58	98.42	99.76

	139-1	3811-6	WKW0064	WLW0021
Example 6 green rubup (RU)	1	1	1 white floe	0
Color Corp. Green 1921 RU	0	0	1 white floe	0
Example 6 green shake out (SO)	100.43	103.07	100.21	100.69
Color Corp. Green 1921 SO	97.67	98.51	99.3	100.5

The above specification, examples and data provide a complete description of the manufacture and use of the composition of the invention.

- 5 Since many embodiments of the invention can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention, the invention resides in the claims hereinafter appended.

What is claimed is:

1. A universal tinting concentrate, comprising:
a pigment dispersant including an organic acid containing no more than
70 carbon atoms, or a salt thereof;
5 a colorant component; and
a pH neutralizing agent.
2. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein when the tinting
concentrate is added to paint vehicle, the colorant-to-vehicle binder ratio is about
10 0.35 to about 25.
3. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the organic acid in
acid form is a liquid at ambient temperature.
- 15 4. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the organic acid is
aliphatic.
5. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 4, wherein the organic acid has
a ratio of acid groups to aliphatic carbon atoms of at least about 1:5.
20
6. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 5, wherein the ratio is about
1:6 and about 1:25.
7. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the organic acid
25 includes one or more carboxylic, sulfonic or phosphoric acid groups, or any
combination thereof.
8. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the organic acid is
unsaturated or polyunsaturated.
30

9. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the organic acid constitutes between about 3 and about 13 wt. % of the universal tinting concentrate.
- 5 10. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the organic acid contains about 6 to about 50 carbon atoms.
11. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the organic acid is a polyacid containing 19 to 30 carbon atoms, 2 to four carboxyl groups and an
10 alkylenic chain of 14 to 22 aliphatic carbon atoms.
12. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 11, wherein the alkylenic chain has one or more sites of unsaturation.
- 15 13. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the organic acid includes C6 to C20 carboxylic acid dimer.
14. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 13, wherein the polyacid includes cyclopentadiene carboxylic acid dimer.
- 20 15. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 13, wherein the polyacid includes linoleic acid dimer.
16. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the organic acid
25 includes C6 to C20 carboxylic acid trimer.
17. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the acid is in the form of alkali metal salt, alkaline earth metal, ammonium salt, amine salt or mixture thereof.
- 30

18. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 17, wherein the amine salt includes alkanolamine salt.

19. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the colorant component is organic or inorganic pigment, colorant, tinting agent, or metal effect agent, or any combination thereof.

20. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 19, wherein the pigment is selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide white, carbon black, lampblack, black iron oxide, red iron oxide, yellow iron oxide, brown iron oxide, phthalocyanine green, phthalocyanine blue, organic red pigments, quinacridone magenta, quinacridone violet, DNA orange, and organic yellow pigments, or any combination thereof.

21. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the pH neutralizing agent maintains the pH of the tinting concentrate in a range of between about 6 and 10.

22. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the pH neutralizing agent is a base.

23. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 26, wherein the base is an alkali, alkali earth metal hydroxide, ammonium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, amine, or any combination thereof.

24. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 23, wherein the amine includes alkanolamine.

25. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, further comprising a dihydric alcohol.

26. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, further comprising a polyhydric alcohol.

5 27. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, further comprising a polyether.

28. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 27, wherein the polyether includes polyalkyl glycol, polyhydroxyether, polysaccharide or polyalkylene
10 oxide.

29. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 28, wherein the polyalkyl glycol includes polyethylene glycol or polypropylene glycol.

15 30. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 29, wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight between about 250 and about 800.

31. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 30, wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight between about 275 and about 325.

20 32. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, further comprising an anionic or cationic surfactant, or both.

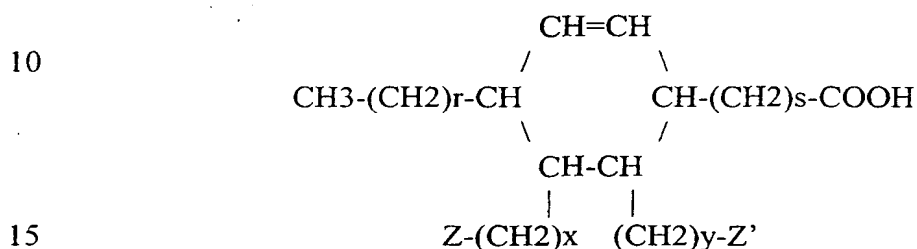
33. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 32, wherein the surfactant
25 constitutes between about 0 and 10 percent by weight of the tinting concentrate.

34. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 32, wherein the surfactant includes lecithin, a phosphate partial ester or a polyacrylate salt.

35. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, further comprising a thickener.

36. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 35, wherein the thickener includes synthetic hectorite or cross-linked polyacrylic acid.

37. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 1, wherein the organic acid is represented by the following structure:



where r and s are integers and r + s is 6 to 16; and x and y are integers and x + y is 0 to 19; and Z is H or COOH and Z' is H or COOH.

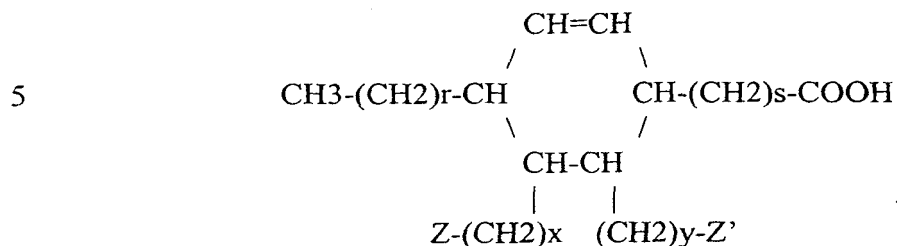
38. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 37, wherein Z is H and Z' is COOH.

39. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 38, wherein r is 4 to 6; s is 6 to 8; x is 0; and y is 0.

40. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 37, wherein r is 4 to 6; s is 6 to 8; x is 0; and y is 0.

41. A universal tinting concentrate comprising:
 a pigment dispersant including an organic acid, or a salt thereof;
 a colorant component; and
 a pH neutralizing agent;

wherein the pigment dispersant includes an organic acid is represented by the following structure:



where r and s are integers and $r + s$ is 8 to 16; and x and y are integers and $x + y$ is 0 to 19; and Z is H or COOH and Z' is H or COOH.

42. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 41, wherein Z is COOH and Z' is COOH.

43. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 42, wherein r is 4 to 6; s is 6 to 8; x is 0; and y is 0.

44. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 43, wherein r is 4 to 6; s is 6 to 8; x is 0; and y is 0.

45. The universal tinting concentrate of claim 43, further comprising a polyether having a molecular weight between about 200 and about 800.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US99/23626

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : C09C 1/22, 1/24, 1/36, 1/48, 1/56; C09B 48/00, 67/14, 67/16

US CL : 106/31.85, 304, 425, 430, 449, 712

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 106/31.85, 304, 425, 430, 449, 712

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- Y	US 4,909,852 A (ATKINSON) 20 March 1990, col. 2, lines 7-13; col. 4, lines 21-25; col. 7, lines 10-15, 42-45, 52-54; col. 9, lines 49-63.	1, 3-8, 10, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23 ----- 9, 11-13, 16, 25
Y,P	US 5,837,045 A (JOHNSON et al) 17 November 1998, col. 5, lines 50-55, col. 6, lines 21-37, col. 10, lines 57-63.	2, 26-31
X --- Y	US 2,635,057 A (JORDAN) 14 April 1953, col. 2, lines 20-23; col. 3, lines 37-42.	1, 3-8, 10, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23 ----- 15



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*T	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	
*A	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance		
*E	earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*X	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
*L	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*Y	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
*O	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
*P	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	*&	document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

15 FEBRUARY 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

24 FEB 2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

MICHAEL J. DIVERDI

Telephone No. (703) 308-0664

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US99/23626

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,401,313 A (SUPPLEE et al) 28 March 1995, col. 7, 49-55, col. 8, lines 44-67.	1, 21, 32-34
X	US 4,741,781 A (DE WITTE) 03 May 1988, col. 3, lines 13-21.	1, 35, 36